

## **Outstanding Achievements**

### **Education, Children's & Adult Services Committee: 11 November 2015**

#### Russell Knox

Former Culloden Academy pupil Russell Knox has become Scotland's highest ranked golfer, and is now ranked number 31 in the world, after winning the WGC Champions Tournament in Shanghai.

#### George Evans

17 year old George Evans, also formerly of Culloden Academy, has won the bronze medal in the IAAF World Youth Championships in Columbia, and was selected to represent Team Scotland for both discuss and shot putt at the Youth Commonwealth Games in Samoa – where he was a silver medallist.

#### Dawn Cowie

17 year old, Golspie High pupil Dawn Cowie, has experienced lifelong treatment at Raigmore and Aberdeen hospitals for a rare medical condition. She is now working to raise funds for the Archie Foundation. She has already raised over £10,000, and has been recognised in winning a Saltire Award. Jonathon McDonald

#### Jonathon McDonald

John Macdonald recently received the BEM from the Lord Lieutenant of Nairnshire, in recognition for his long and outstanding service to the ACF Nairn detachment. John started as a cadet himself in 1982 and then returned as an adult volunteer in 1988. He took over control of the Nairn detachment in 2000.

John's volunteering over the past 27 years has ensured that a large number of young people in and around Nairn have been able to participate in activities that benefit them and greatly enhance their community. John has been a role model for the cadets, and has been particularly effective in supporting local youngsters from disadvantaged backgrounds.

### Chantelle Lowther

Chantelle Lowther, who is a Gypsy/Traveller completed 2 separate Vocational Pathways Courses over the last 2 years. During the first year she was on the Cooking Course, where she was awarded Student of the Year in her class. She went on to do the Hairdressing Course and, was then accepted onto the full-time course. She has since decided to have a break from studying and has full time employment in a local hotel, but says she will return to Hairdressing at some point in the future.

### Sean Stewart

Sean Stewart, a 16 year old Gypsy/Traveller has successfully completed a PEO Fabrication and Welding Vocational Pathways Course at Inverness College. He reapplied this school session for the Construction Course and was accepted, but has subsequently decided to take up full time employment with a local business.

Both Sean and Chantelle have been supported by the Council's Interrupted Learning Development Officer and the Schools/College Liaison Officer.

### Lynda Banks

Lynda Banks, Head Teacher of Strathdearn Primary, recently competed in the GB Women's Powerlifting Classic in Bournemouth. She successfully managed to squat 100kg, and bench 57.5kg. In the deadlift, she lifted a huge 137.5kg, and overall she broke 12 of her own Scottish records.

Lynda has recently been selected to compete for Scotland in the Commonwealth Powerlifting Championships in Vancouver.

### 122 Ashton Road

The Children's Unit at 122 Ashton Road has been awarded exceptional grades in its recent inspection, which is great credit to Pamela Buchanan, Unit Manager, and the staff and young people who live there:

- Quality of care and support – 6: Excellent
- Quality of environment – 5: Very Good
- Quality of staffing – 6: Excellent
- Quality of management and leadership – 5: Very Good